due to the fact that the mandatory flight calibration of DVOR could not yet be carried out for want of high altitude calibration aircraft. Indian Air Force has been requested for their assistance in flight calibration of the system.

Change in security arrangements

1511. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any change has been introduced in the security arrangements at the National and International Airports after the attack on the World Trade Centre in USA; and

(b) if so, the details of improvements made in the security arrangements?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) After the recent terrorist attacks in USA, the following security measures have been taken, *inter alia*, to further strengthen security at the airports in India in order to prevent hijackings and other unlawful interference with civil aviation operations:—

(i) Deployment of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) at all operational airports in a time bound manner;

(ii) Deployment of Sky Marshals on all routes of scheduled domestic airlines, including private airlines;

(iii) Deployment of Quick Reaction Teams at major airports;

(iv) Strict access control, including mandatory ladder point security checks of passengers and their hand baggage;

(v) Security audit of airports, followed by necessary action for further strengthening of security arrangements.

Concession to senior citizens

1512. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether considering piteous conditions of senior citizens in the country, Government propose to grant some more concessions to them who have crossed the age of seventy five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) Indian Airlines gives 50% discount on fare to those citizens who have completed 65 years of age (in case of women above 63 years of age) on the date of commencement of journey. Air India does not offer discount to senior citizens. However, Air India has competitive market fares for international and domestic travel which are also applicable to the senior citizens.

Overhauling of IA's Boeing-747 Fleet

1513. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has taken a decision to overhaul its entire ageing fleet of Boeing-747;

(b) if so, the details of the new equipment etc. which are to be fixed in the entire fleet of Boeing-747;

(c) the details of companies from which such equipment would be purchased and at what terms and conditions; and

(d) the extent to which the overhaul of fleet is going to check/avoid accident, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (d) Indian Airlines follows a preventive maintenance programme recommended by the aircraft manufacturers and approved by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). Each aircraft in Indian Airlines is overhauled as and when it falls due for such an overhaul as per the prescribed maintenance schedule. All Indian Airlines and Alliance Air aircraft which are utilized for schedueld service are put into operation only after they have been certified airworthy by the DGCA. The productivity of maintenance schedules is progressively enhanced to check various critical areas. The aircraft modifications are also carried out as and when they fall due.

No new equipment is installed during progressive maintenance. The components are overhauled as per the programme approved by the DGCA and all spares are purchased from Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) or an organisation duly approved by the OEMs.

On one B737 aircraft, a major modification known as lap joint